

ABSTRACT

5 A method and system for maintaining synchronization in a home network is disclosed. The home network includes a host ethernet media access controller and an HPNA chip, where control frame and data frame pairs are transferred between the host ethernet media access controller (MAC) and the HPNA chip. The method and system include sending a null frame from the host ethernet MAC to the HPNA chip prior to the data frame, and recognizing the null frame on the HPNA chip as an indication that a next received frame will be the data frame, thereby maintaining synchronization between the control frame and the data frame pairs.